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~~REBELS - AMERICANS~~

WASHINGTON, JUNE 5: REUTER - CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

DIRECTOR STANSFIELD TURNER WENT BEFORE A CONGRESSIONAL PANEL TODAY TO SHOW CONGRESSMEN SECRET EVIDENCE OF CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE REBEL INVASION OF ZAIRE.

HE TESTIFIED AT A CLOSED SESSION OF A HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INTELLIGENCE SUBCOMMITTEE AND WAS TO APPEAR LATER IN THE WEEK APPEAR BEFORE A SIMILAR SENATE PANEL.

THE TWO CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR OVERSEEING CIA OPERATIONS.

STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HODDING CARTER SAID THE MATERIAL MR TURNER WOULD SHOW WAS HIGHLY CLASSIFIED AND WOULD NOT BE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC.

BUT HOUSE SPEAKER THOMAS O'NEILL (DEMOCRAT, MASSACHUSETTS) TOLD REPORTERS TODAY HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAD PICTURES SHOWING THAT CUBANS WERE INVOLVED IN THE INVASION.

CUBA HAS DENIED ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN THE KATANGESE INCURSION INTO ZAIRE'S COPPER-RICH SOUTHEASTERN PROVINCE OF SHABA, WHILE PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ASSERTED THAT CUBA TRAINED AND ARMED THE REBELS AT BASES IN ANGOLA.
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~~REBELS - AMERICAN 2 WASHINGTON~~

DEFENSE SECRETARY HAROLD BROWN SAID YESTERDAY IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW (CBS' "FACE THE NATION") THAT THE EVIDENCE CONSISTED OF REPORTS, STATEMENTS AND EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS FROM PRISONERS, DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE AND PEOPLE IN NEIGHBORING AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

MR O'NEILL'S REFERENCE TO PHOTOGRAPHS OCCURRED AT HIS DAILY PRESS CONFERENCE WHEN HE SPOKE OF A BRIEFING THE

PRESIDENT GAVE CONGRESSMEN LAST FRIDAY ON THE CUBAN MATTER. MR O'NEILL SAID UNDER HEAVY QUESTIONING THAT HE HAD NOT ACTUALLY SEEN ANY PHOTOGRAPHS, NOR DID HE SAY EXPLICITLY WHO TOLD HIM THERE WERE PICTURES.

THE MATTER CAME UP AFTER A REPORTER ASKED ABOUT THE FRIDAY MEETING, ALSO ATTENDED BY CIA DIRECTOR TURNER.

"I WOULD SAY THE PROOF IS THERE CUBANS PARTICIPATED IN ZAIRE. . . ." MR O'NEILL SAID.

"THERE ARE PICTURES THAT WILL IDENTIFY CUBAN LEADERS WITH THE GROUPS," HE ADDED, WITHOUT IDENTIFYING THE GROUPS. ¹ MORE 1523

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REBELS - AMERICAN 3 WASHINGTON

MR BROWN SAID YESTERDAY THE INFORMATION THE ADMINISTRATION HAD WAS THAT CUBANS ACCOMPANIED THE REBELS "VERY CLOSE TO THE BORDER" BUT THAT THERE WAS "NO CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT CUBANS ACTUALLY ACCOMPANIED THE INVADING FORCES INTO ZAIRE. ¹

MR O'NEILL, A LOYAL ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTER, SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT MR CARTER AND THE ADMINISTRATION WERE TELLING THE TRUTH IN THEIR CHARGES ABOUT CUBAN INVOLVEMENT.

"THE INFORMATION WAS THAT THERE WERE CUBAN TROOP LEADERS IN THERE," HE SAID.

A REPORTER ASKED: "IN ZAIRE?"

"THAT IS HOW I INTERPRET IT," HE SAID.

SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER ROBERT BYRD, WHO ALSO HAS RECEIVED A WHITE HOUSE BRIEFING ON THE SITUATION, SAID EARLIER: "I BELIEVE HIS (THE PRESIDENT'S) INFORMATION IS ACCURATE. ¹

HE SAID THAT WHILE CARE HAD TO BE TAKEN NOT TO OVERREACT,

"I THINK HIS RESPONSES HAVE BEEN MEASURED, DELIBERATE, AND APPROPRIATE UP TO THIS POINT. ¹

REUTER 1525